



OFFICE OF

**PLACER COUNTY CLERK – RECORDER –
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS**

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County Clerk-Recorder-Registrar

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FILED
In the office of the Secretary of State
of the State of California

MAR 07 2008

Debra Bowen, Secretary of State
By *[Signature]*
Deputy Secretary of State

**Report of 1 percent manual tally count of random
precincts. Election Code Section 15360(e)**

I, JIM McCAULEY, County clerk-Recorder-Registrar of Voters, County of Placer, State of California, do hereby certify that on February 13, 2008, a one percent manual tally was completed in conjunction with the February 5, 2008, Presidential Primary Election.

The California Elections Code requires each local election official to conduct a manual count of all contests on ballots cast in a randomly selected one percent of the Election Day voting precincts in order to verify the accuracy of the machine count. This manual tally occurs during the 28-day vote-canvassing period prior to official certification of election results and augments extensive pre-election testing activities to demonstrate the integrity of the vote tabulation system.

This report addresses the manual to machine count comparison of a randomly selected one percent of the AccuVote Optical Scan units deployed on Election Day.

Precincts were selected randomly by drawing five slips of paper, one from each of the five Supervisorial Districts. The precinct numbers drawn were 140653, 240533, 340107, 453501, and 531201.

In addition, to ensure one precinct was manually recounted in every race, an additional mail ballot precinct was selected (6340404), and the vote by mail ballots were tallied in one precinct (8140645) to check accuracy for absentee ballots.

Five of the seven selected precincts/races showed exact matching tallies between the manual tally and the election summary report.

Two of the seven selected precincts showed one (1) additional vote cast in five contests (1 local measure, and 4 state propositions). In each instance the result was one additional vote cast in the manual tally compared to the election summary report (see table below).

Precinct Number	Race/Measure/Proposition	Election Summary Report	Manual Tally Result
240533	Local Measure J	Yes - 166	Yes - 167
340107	State Proposition 91	Yes - 50	Yes - 51
340107	State Proposition 92	Yes - 45	Yes - 46
340107	State Proposition 96	Yes - 60	Yes - 61
340107	State Proposition 97	Yes - 61	Yes - 62

Upon determination that the manual tally showed one additional vote, elections staff proceeded to physically examine each ballot. Staff studied each optical scan ballot in the affected precincts to determine if ballots were marked correctly (i.e. completely filling in the oval next to candidate, measure or proposition on the ballot). This corresponds with past experiences in manual tallies of all types of ballots (punch card and optical scan) where a voter does not mark the ballot correctly, resulting in ballot tabulating machines not recognizing the mark. The audit and examination process of each ballot demonstrated that mis-marking of optical scan ballots did occur in each instance, which caused the manual tally to be off by one vote. Identified mis-marking on the ballots included the voter marking the optical scan ballot incorrectly with an "X" or check marks. In conclusion, the mark made by the voter did not have been enough pixels in the oval on the ballot for the reader head to count the vote. This is usually not an issue for ballots received at the Elections Division because we have the ability under procedures filed with the California Secretary of State's office to enhance a voter's mark on the ballot. Lastly, audit tapes from the AccuVote units were run from the two (2) precincts in question.

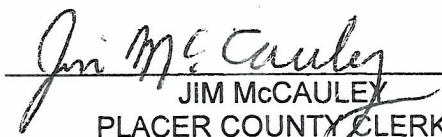
Information on how to correctly mark the ballot is written on the header of each official ballot. Instruction to the voter from the poll worker is given at the polling place on Election Day as well as posted inside the voting booths. Instructions are also written on the secrecy sleeves that are given to voters at the polling place and inside Sample Ballots sent to voters. Continuing education and more familiarization with optical scan technology should minimize future problems.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have set my hand and affixed my official seal on this 28th day of February 2008, in accordance with the laws of the State of California.

FILED
In the office of the Secretary of State
of the State of California

MAR 07 2008

Debra Bowen, Secretary of State
By 
Deputy Secretary of State


JIM McCAULEY
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RECORDER-REGISTRAR OF VOTERS
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